1: Ingrams G-5 (1934-35)1936 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

at intervals of some 20 feet a series of shafts similar to those described in connection with the Mukalla water-supply. Hunat al Harth is temporarily not giving water, as the level has fallen below the channel. At Al Quf itself there are a number of wells, and round each are nursery beds where the tobacco seedlings are grown. The beds are divided into patches three or four feet square and the seed close sown, so close that even where seed does not germinate the workers cut small scratches in the ground and plant fresh seed. When the seedlings are grown to a height of about three or four inches they are taken from Al Quf to Al Harth, about a mile and a-half away, and planted out in rows with intervals of a foot, or three-quarters of a *dhirra*, in beds of a size dependent on the amount of water. A bed is called *mutr*, plural *mutira*, and each is surrounded by a ridge to keep in the irrigation water. In due course the crop is gathered and dried. Drying barns are unknown.

The crop is financed by the merchants who advance the money to the cultivators and are paid back either monthly or after the crop. In the case of the Government lands at Gheil some cultivators pay their rent in advance and some after the crop. The rent of the whole area of the Sultan's land at Gheil is assessed before each season and the figure required communicated to his representative there. This official then rents out the land at a figure per acre based on the total sum required.

The total annual value of the crop is now estimated at five lakhs of which the Sultan receives Rs.120,000 in duty and ground rent. Production costs are estimated at three lakhs, so that the profit to the cultivators is Rs.80,000. In order to foster the local consumption of tobacco, there is a monopoly of imported cigarettes and pipe tobacco.

Of tobacco, Mr. H. M. Heald in his report of the Agricultural Mission to Mukalla says that in the Meifa valley " the cultivation of the tobacco received more attention than any other crop. . . . The seed was sown in a small plot of land which, in the large villages, had been heavily manured with sheep dung mixed with fine earth. When 40 days old the plants were transplanted into the small beds at distances of one foot apart, and again manured with fish : irrigation varied in the villages but generally every seven days.

" Topping of the terminal buds took place after all the leaves had been formed and the plants were ripe for cutting in four or five months, according to district and season. The plants were dried on the ground first singly and then in small bundles, and afterwards hung up in rows. After drying again in bundles, they were covered with sacks to promote fermentation, and then the plants were taken into the houses for further drying in the dark, and ready for transporting to the coast in a week or so. Practically no grading was done . . . and I am sure " he writes, " better prices would be obtained if more attention were paid to selection."

[Tobacco -- Analyst]

6: Hamilton G-5 (no date) 1943 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

in those tribes where the rule of public opinion under a figurehead, who nevertheless can influence that opinion, approaches so much to a child's picture of our own. That problem I leave to the administrators.

Confederations under hereditary Chiefs in the Protectorate are in all cases in process of disintegration. It is, as one might expect, most marked on the borders of the confederations. As an instance, the tribes of Dathina belong properly to the 'Aulaqi Confederation. So do the Thula' tribes. We find, however, that to-day the 'Aulaqi Sultan of Nisab, who should be the head of the Upper Confederation of tribes, is reluctant to claim his headship over Dathina, and because of his reluctance the Thula' tribes, led by the Shamsi, have defied the authority of the Sultan and have closed the important road through their country to try and force the Sultan to assert himself. Land ownership in Dathina is almost more complicated than in most places in the Protectorate.

As a general rule a man may sell his land within the tribe. To sell land outside the tribe, the general consent of the whole tribe is necessary. It is particularly on tribal borders that one finds the land in the possession of Raya, non-tribesman class, peasant farmers, who work the land for wages. Where these farm land for a saint their position is fairly protected, but where their land lies on a disputed boundary and is the property of one of the disputants, their position is uncomfortable in the extreme. They are frequently pressed both by bribes and threats to affirm and change their landlord, and their position is the cause of endless argument and feud. As an instance, the land in Wadi Tuwana belongs to the Seyyids of Jebel Dhubiyat, who pay certain taxes for the overlordship of the Jebel to the Amir of Dhala'. The Seyyids have also a treaty with the Qateibi tribe to protect their lands in Tuwana, and the Qateibis dispute the right of the Amir to take any taxes at all from the Seyyids, who, they declare, should be tax free because of their holiness. If the Amir sends troops or envoys to Tuwana the Qateibis at once move there also, and a strained situation results. It results on the only motor-track between Aden and Dhala', which is used by the Amir and not by the Qateibis, who also thrive on strained situations, while the Amir does not. As a consequence, the Raya of Tuwana are practically independent and all tribal boundaries in the area are permanently in dispute. This situation is fairly typical of all inter-tribal boundaries in the territory, while in some parts these may be complicated by water problems as well. In the absence of courts which can uphold their judgments, I can see only a continued disintegration of the confederations from their borders towards their centres.

I do not favour the flashlight anthropological view whereby a people is shown at one moment of time and no trouble is taken to find out how they have reached their present stage of civilization or whether they are on the up or down grade. It is clear that these confederations are on the down grade and have been so for many centuries, ever since the kingdoms broke up, which in itself was doubtless a slow process. A main contributory cause of their disintegration is the blood fued, and there is little doubt that the grave social condition which has been reached in much of the territory comes from the uncheckable expansion of these feuds due to

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

Chapter 6: Production

LAND UTILISATION AND TENURE

Utilisation of agricultural land

Land for crop production is prepared for irrigation farming by flow or by lift, and for dry farming, where there is a low rainfall and some runoff water, the land is terraced. The great bulk of the land in the Protectorates affords range conditions of light carrying capacity, particularly suited to camels, sheep and goats.

Land and water conservation and utilisation

All farming practices in the Aden Protectorates depend on a highly developed system of conservation of land and water. In the highest areas, land is terraced for crop production and runoff water is led to these terraced fields in order to augment the water provided by actual precipitation; in the mid-altitude areas, mountain torrents are diverted to bunded land laboriously reclaimed and made along the valley sides; below, where the river systems reach wider valley areas and plains, larger diversion works and miles of canal may be used to carry flood water to bunded lands.

This process of water spreading, which is carried on in the lowest lying parts of the coastal plain, results in abundant supplies of underground water. Lift irrigation is practised in many areas and is, of course, of the greatest importance to the more arid north-easterly districts of the Protectorate. At present only supplies drawn from open wells, tapping the "phreatic" zone of water, are used.

Utilisation of land and water is governed by varying systems of tribal and customary law. Where development schemes are now progressing, local authorities are being invited to modify such laws, where necessary, to meet the changing conditions.

Land Ownership

The policy, laws and regulations of each State vary but in general it may be said that the policy of the State is to reserve land ownership for the tribe and generally to tend to favour individual ownership as against State ownership. Land ownership is subject to tribal law and Mohammedan law.

Except for a small area in one district, land in the Protectorate is held by the indigenous inhabitants. The local State Governments are, in some cases, important owners of land.

Land is held in absolute ownership (Mulk), in trusts (Waqf), as dedicatory gifts (Nadr) and in a form of usufructuary tenure (Manh), with near to freehold rights granted in one or two areas to those who have rendered outstanding service to the State.

Payment of a fixed rent in money is only found in a very few specialised systems. Fixed payments in kind, found usually in areas where a high value is placed on land and water, are not general. The

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

427 principal system involves some form of share-tenancy in which the partners divide the crop after harvesting, threshing and winnowing charges and tithes and taxes have been paid in kind. In more fertile areas half of the crop is demanded of the tenant of flood irrigated land, while in the mountain terrace-farming areas a share of one-third is normally levied. In the arid eastern districts shares of one-tenth only may be asked. On lift irrigation systems share-tenancy arrangements vary greatly. In the East, the owner of the land and the well may take a one-tenth share. In the West, the owner of the land and the well may take up to one-half of the crop, though often a share of the seed used and a share in the labour working on the lift irrigation is pro-
423 vided by the landowner. The Qua'iti and Kathiri States have secured legal powers by an agricultural administrative order to further the consolidation of plots round suitable irrigation points, but so far it has been unnecessary to apply such orders.

647 The Department of Agriculture has initiated important programmes
654 for the development of land and water resources. Of particular note is the Abyan Scheme in the Western Protectorate and the pump scheme in the Wadi Hadhramaut in the Eastern Protectorate. At the same time encouragement and organisation in the better use of the excellent indigenous systems of irrigation farming have been the main preoccupation in many districts.

423 Little satisfactory progress has been made in land settlement in the Abyan area. In the Eastern Protectorate, the States, advised by the
406 Residency, are actively encouraging groups of farmers to combine their holdings formerly watered by animal lift in order to make the co-operative use of the mechanical pump lifts an economic proposition.

241. AGRICULTURE

Principal Crops, 1952

	Acres	*Tons*	
WESTERN PROTECTORATE			
Sorghum Millet	23,333	4,333	
Bullrush Millet and other small millets	9,000	1,286	
Wheat	3,000	2,000*	
Barley	6,000	4,000*	
Sesame	4,250	425	
Cotton (long staple)	9,830	7,206	bales of 400 lb. lint*
Coffee	400	100	
EASTERN PROTECTORATE			
Sorghum Millet (lift and permanent flow irrigated)	3,000	2,400	
Sorghum (flood irrigated)	4,000	400	
Bullrush Millet and other small millets	1,500	300	
Wheat	2,600	3,000	
Date Palms	10,500	7,000	

* Crops sown in 1951 and harvested in 1952.

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

APPENDIX I

cotton, introduced in 1946, proved successful and this crop has now been chosen as the main crop for the area.

Payment for irrigation services has always been based on a crop share of 25 per cent payable to the Board. The present crop share and taxation on the crop, as laid down in an agreement dated 1st April, 1950, is as follows :

PARTY	LIVE LAND (*Land developed and cultivated for 5 years*)	DEAD LAND (*New land opened for cultivation*)
	%	%
State (Taxation) . .	5	10
Landlord . . .	20	15
Tenant . . .	50	50
Board . . .	25	25

To secure rapid development, traditional methods have been used while the land has been surveyed and existing canal systems aligned and new canals of improved design have been constructed. Diversion is still by traditional methods but regulators have been constructed in the upper part of the district.

Land and Water Rights

The Board does not own or control any land except building sites and experimental areas loaned from the local States and, in one case, rented from a landowner.

The Board controls the diversion and distribution of all flood water in the district. In the winter season the Board purchases the permanent flow of the Bana River from the Lower Yafai Sultan and his relatives and distributes this supply through the canal system to farmers who pay the customary crop share to the Board.

Tribal boundaries and settlements of title to the area have been ill defined in the past years of insecurity, but in 1951 final decisions were taken regarding tribal boundaries.

Survey

Since 1948 an area of 100,000 acres has been contour surveyed to a one metre interval. Geophysical surveys, the first as a reconnaissance and the second in fairly detailed form, have been made.

Irrigation Development

Development is in various stages. An area of approximately 50,000 acres of land is now controlled for irrigation farming, mainly on traditional lines. The normal flood flow to the area is expected to be sufficient to crop 30,000 acres yearly. In the 1951 flood a discharge of 224,000,000 cubic metre was observed to reach Abyan in the Bana River and this quantity, if correctly controlled, would have been sufficient for the irrigation of 50,000 acres. In actual fact only 30,000 acres were irrigated. The system is to direct flood water at speed, by diversion weirs made of brushwood and stone, into canals